

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Katsuyoshi TERAKADO et al.

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: February 27, 2002

Title: ELECTRONIC FUEL INJECTOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows prior to examination. A version with markings to show the changes made is included at the end of this Preliminary Amendment.

1. (Amended) An electronic fuel injector comprising a movable part having a valve member provided at a fore end of said movable part, and a swirler for swirling fuel and guiding movement of said valve member provided at the fore end of said movable part,

wherein said swirler is formed of a powder sintered compact of stainless steel having corrosion resistance and wear resistance.

2. (Amended) An electronic fuel injector according to Claim 1, wherein martensitic stainless steel is used as a material of said swirler formed of a powder sintered compact.

3. (Amended) An electronic fuel injector according to

Claim 1, wherein said swirler formed of a powder sintered compact has a hardness which is not less than 90 HRB after sintering.

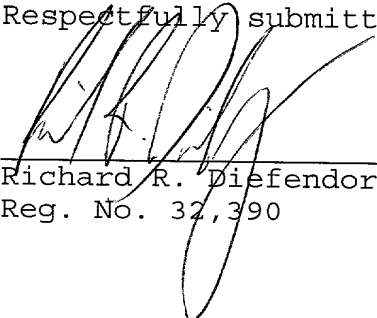
4. (Amended) An electronic fuel injector according to Claim 1, wherein said swirler formed of a powder sintered compact has a density which is not less than 6.5 after sintering.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed in order to eliminate minor informalities in the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

February 27, 2002



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In each claim appearing below, deletions are bracketed and additions are underlined.

1. (Amended) An electronic fuel injector comprising a movable part having a valve member provided at a fore end of said movable part, and a swirler for swirling fuel and guiding movement of said valve member provided at the fore end of said movable part,

wherein [sad] said swirler is formed of a powder sintered compact of stainless steel having corrosion resistance and wear resistance.

2. (Amended) An electronic fuel injector according to Claim 1, wherein martensitic stainless steel is used as a material of [sad] said swirler formed of a powder sintered compact.

3. (Amended) An electronic fuel injector according to Claim 1, wherein [sad] said swirler formed of a powder sintered compact has a hardness which is not less than 90 HRB after sintering.

4. (Amended) An electronic fuel injector according to Claim 1, wherein [sad] said swirler formed of a powder sintered compact has a density which is not less than 6.5 after sintering.